Happy Spring! Our advocacy efforts are well underway with the Coalition working on numerous federal and state initiatives. Additionally, the Coalition celebrated the creation of the Centennial National Historic Site and continues to support efforts to achieve the President's 30 x 30 Initiative. Here is a look at some of the highlights below.

Advocacy Actions

Here are a few of the actions we look in April:

- We submitted a public comment in support of a visitor management plan for the New River Gorge National Park, including a request that this process be expanded and applied to other parks.
- The Coalition submitted comments on a draft NPS rule for the Visitor Experience and Improvement Authority (VEIA) contracts. The letter supports extension of the authority and identifies some park level operations that NPS should ensure are supported through the authorization.
- The Coalition submitted comments to Secretary Haaland on the President's 30 x 30 Initiative. The letter supports extension of the authority and recommendations for successful implementation.
- We commented on the Grand Canyon National Park Visitor Experience and Improvement Authority (VEIA) contracts. The letter highlights the importance of a long-term strategy to successfully implement permit fees. The Coalition encouraged the Park to provide a public comment opportunity and recommend modernizing its reservation management system.
- Coalition members published an op-ed in the Boulder Daily Camera in support legislation designating the Bay as a national recreation area, promote good stewardship, and encouraging community engagement.

On the Horizon

Here is a look at some of the work we'll be tackling in April:

- Organizing the Coalition's virtual Hill Advocacy Day (in person or virtually)
- Submitting comments on proposed NPS rule to support the extension of the Visitor Experience and Improvement Authority (VEIA) contracts. The letter identifies areas of park level operations that NPS should ensure are supported through the authorization.
- Developing a strategy to support the improvement of visitor experience within NPS.
- Submitted comments on the 30 x 30 Initiative.
- Recommending modernizing its reservation management system.
- Developing a strategy to support the implementation plan for the American Conservation and Stewardship Atlas.
- Submitting comments on a proposed NPS rule regarding the vesting of the right of way and recommending modernizing its reservation management system.

Notable Actions

On Friday, March 18, 2022, President Joe Biden signed into law the National Park System Improvement Plan Act of 2022, establishing a new National Park Service (NPS) strategy and authorities to modernize the NPS and improve park management. The legislation authorizes NPS to develop a strategy to support the implementation plan for the American Conservation and Stewardship Atlas.

Member Count

The Coalition added 32 new members in March bringing the total to 2,205. Know someone interested in becoming a member? They can join here.

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